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THE SADDEST OF THOUGHTS.

The saddest thought that ever found its way
 Into the curious chamber of the mind,
 Is, that to close the latest earthly day
 Sums all of life; that all is final blind.
 Dispose of elements, nor shall we find
 Rest other than the dusty remnants have
 Which were our bodies and the soul enshrined,
 Then to be parted like th' unmeaning wave,
 The friendly atoms all, forth wandering from the grave!

R. R. BULKLEY.

CHICAGO, November 30, 1878.

BOOK NOTICES.

ILLUSIONS: A PSYCHOLOGICAL STUDY. By JAMES SULLY. "The International Scientific Series." Vol. XXXIV. London: C. Kegan Paul & Co., 1881. New York: D. Appleton & Co.

Mr. Sully's book will be welcomed as the latest contribution to "The International Scientific Series" by those who have, perhaps, been inclined to feel that psychical and speculative sciences have not as yet been quite fairly represented in the development of the publishers' undertaking. Out of thirty-four volumes now extant, there have been only nine or ten dealing with subjects other than physical. The present volume, apart from its intrinsic merits, which are great, has this relative value: that it is one more weight in the higher scale, and goes to restore the balance of the series as symmetrically mirroring the encyclopædia of science.

It deals with illusions, not of external perception merely, as most treatises do, but also of introspection or reflection, memory and belief, and concludes with an epilogue of considerable length and fulness, which will have special interest for the readers of "The Journal of Speculative Philosophy," inasmuch as it points the way from the science to the philosophy of illusion—a speculative *critique* and review of the whole field of error. This interest will be the greater that this contribution to the philosophy of illusion is from the hand of a man of science, and shows in him much breadth of culture and open-mindedness of regard.

In a modest way he apologizes for his intrusion, as he takes it, into the field of "divine philosophy"! But we shall say nothing about that, and only take what he gives us with gratitude, though not without discrimination.

Science is description, classification, and explanation by psychical and physical conditions. Science assumes a great deal to begin with. It is for philosophy, he says, to